

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An eluent for ion chromatography for analyzing divalent cations, which comprises an acid and at least one amino acid selected from the group consisting of 5 histidine, lysine and arginine.
2. The eluent according to Claim 1, wherein the divalent cations are alkaline earth metal ions.
3. The eluent according to Claim 1, wherein the acid is nitric acid, sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid, 10 methanesulfonic acid, oxalic acid, tartaric acid, benzoic acid or phthalic acid.
4. A method for analyzing cations by ion chromatography employing a cation exchange column, wherein the eluent as defined in Claim 1 is used.